

REGULAR MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
March 24, 2014

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Kegler, Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Raymond, Ryan, Shapiro, Wassmundt

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to approve the minutes of March 10, 2014 special meeting, as presented. Motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Kochenburger who abstained. Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2014 regular meeting, as presented. Motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Kochenburger who abstained.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Ric Hossack, Middle Turnpike, raised objections to a number of items on the agenda including the goal setting process, the proposed nonunion pay increases, the Board of Education proposed budget increase, the proposed settlement agreement with Desman Associates, and asked the Council to not increase his taxes.

Brian Coleman, Centre Street, posed a number of questions regarding the Section 8 Housing Program (statement attached, submitted information posted as a communication in the April 14, 2014 packet).

IV. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

In addition to his written report Town Manager Matt Hart noted his disagreement with Mr. Hossack's characterization of his comments regarding the pros and risks involved in the development agreement. The Town's share of the overruns on the garage will be paid from the Storrs Center Reserve Fund.

Ms. Wassmundt asked that during the Town Manager's meetings with state legislators, he also pursue options which would allow the Town to switch to a different pension plan and use an employee's base salary as the basis for pension payouts. Mr. Hart offered to take the suggestions under advisement but noted that the legislation currently being considered addresses an increase in the employee contribution to CMERS.

V. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ms. Moran reported that she and the Mayor attended the Mansfield Tomorrow forum on agriculture which they found both interesting and detailed. Ms. Moran urged members of the public to review the draft document and provide their comments.

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to proceed immediately to Item 4, Mansfield Housing Authority Section 8 Program, and Item 5, Revised Agricultural Lease for Baxter Field, prior to Old Business. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Community Water and Wastewater Issues

Connecticut Water Company will be hosting an informational meeting on the diversion permit application for the pipeline project on March 31, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center. The Four Corners Water and Sewer Advisory Committee will be meeting on April 1, 2014. The Town Manager will be meeting with staff and consulting

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engineers from Weston and Samson to discuss the design of the pump station, trunk line and collection system. The Town Manager will update the Council at their next meeting.

2. Storrs Center Update

A Main Street Homes Information Session concerning the condos and town houses to be built in Phase III will be offered on April 2, 2014 at the Nathan Hale Inn. The Nash-Zimmer Intermodal Center will be opened officially on April 14, 2014.

3. Town Council Goal Setting

Ms. Wassmundt moved, and Mr. Kegler seconded to endorse the following goal statement:

The goal of the Mansfield Town Council is to provide effective and efficient infrastructure and municipal services based on the core principals of honesty, fairness, and dependability to all those who live, work or own property within the Town so as to make the community a desirable and affordable place to live.

Members discussed the difference between goals and mission statements, the need to measure how the Town is doing, and the need to prioritize goals.

Mr. Ryan called the question. The motion to call the question passed.

The motion failed with Kegler, Raymond and Wassmundt in favor and Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Ryan and Shapiro against the motion.

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded Move, effective March 24, 2014, to adopt the 2014-15 Town Council Goals and Objectives as presented and to add the document to the Mansfield Town Council policy index.

Ms. Raymond moved and Mr. Kegler seconded to amend the motion to add the goal of a review of lessons learned during the Storrs Center Project. This goal would be added under Service Delivery.

Members discussed various subject matters which might be appropriate for review at this time including a fiscal analysis, a report on the effect on other businesses in Town, an evaluation of public/private partnerships, the design of the project, the structure of the contracts, and comments from Public Works.

Mr. Shapiro offered a motion to amend the main motion, to delete Ms. Raymond's previously offered amendment, and to substitute the following:

Under the Service Delivery section include a review of the Town's portion of the Storrs Center project to determine what lessons have been learned.

Seconded by Mr. Kegler the motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Ryan who voted against the motion.

The motion, as amended passed with all in favor except Ms. Wassmundt who voted against the motion.

(2014-2015 Mansfield Town Council Goals and Objectives, as amended, attached.)

VII. NEW BUSINESS

4. Mansfield Housing Authority Section 8 Program

Rebecca Fields, Executive Director of the Mansfield Housing Authority, described the Section 8 Housing Program and discussed ways the Authority has worked to reduce their cost. The Authority is requesting \$12,000 from the Town of Mansfield and proportional amounts from other participating towns.

Council members agreed to flag this item for discussion during budget deliberations.

5. Revised Agricultural Lease for Baxter Field

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Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded, effective March 24, 2014, to authorize the Town Manager to execute the proposed Agricultural Lease for Baxter Field between the Town of Mansfield and the Galgowski Family, as revised by staff and the Town Attorney. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Building Security Plan Update

Emergency Management Director Fran Raiola and Information Technology Director Jamie Russell reported that after individually reviewing each Town facility they have arrived at a security plan for each building. The plan is to slowly implement these measures being conscious of the public use of the buildings.

7. FY 2013/14 Compensation Adjustments for Nonunion Personnel

Ms. Moran, Chair of the Personnel Committee, moved to: 1) increase the pay rates in the Town Administrators Pay Plan by 1.5%, retroactive to July 1, 2013; and 2) at the close of the fiscal year, to award an additional one-time payment equivalent to 0.5% of salary to regular nonunion employees in the Town Administrators Pay Plan, retroactive to July 1, 2013 for active nonunion employees serving on that date, and retroactive to the date of hire for active nonunion employees hired after July 1, 2013.

The motion passed with Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Ryan and Shapiro in favor and Kegler, Raymond and Wassmundt opposed.

7a. Settlement Agreement among the Town of Mansfield, Desman Associates and Day Pitney LLP

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Kochenburger seconded, effective March 24, 2014, to authorize the Town Manager to execute the attached Settlement Agreement between the Town of Mansfield, Desman Associates and Day Pitney LLP.

The motion passed unanimously.

Town Manager Matt Hart distributed information requested by Ms. Wassmundt regarding Leyland Storrs, LLC contributions to the overrun costs.

VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Mr. Kochenburger, Chair of the Committee on Committees, offered the following recommendations:

The appointment of Gretchen Hall to the Board of Commissioners of the Mansfield Housing Authority for a term ending 10/31/2018

The appointments of Rita Kornblum, Jordana Frost and Julie Campbell to the Mansfield Advocates for Children for terms ending 6/30/2016

The reappointment of Anita Bacon and the appointment of Lesley Dyson Minearo as regular members to the Historic District Commission for terms ending 1/1/2019

The motion passed with all in favor except Ms. Wassmundt who abstained.

Mr. Kochenburger reported the Ad Hoc Committee on Fee Waivers met last Friday and will have recommendations to propose at the next Town Council meeting.

Ms. Moran, Chair of the Responsible Contractor Ordinance, reported the Committee is beginning to wrap up their work and will bring their recommendations to the Council in the near future.

IX. DEPARTMENTAL AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

No comments offered.

X. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATONS

8. F. Baruzzi re: Mansfield Board of Education Budget for FY 2014-15

9. State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection re: Reimbursement of Overtime and the Fringe Benefit Rate

10. State of Connecticut Office of the Probate Court Administrator re: Judge Twerdy

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- 11. Annual Town Meeting Flyer
- 12. Mansfield Minute – March 2014
- 13. Press Release: Mansfield Annual Report Now Available

XI. FUTURE AGENDA

As previously requested by Mr. Marcellino, a discussion of the location of the Probate Court will be added to an April agenda.

Mr. Kochenburger requested the use of iPads at meetings be discussed at a future meeting.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Kegler seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth C. Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

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